(9) He has no previous experience in this Department.

(10) No, and hence no action was taken.

(11) Yes. It was sent to me for remarks and on my recommendation the Diwan was pleased to cancel the dismissal order and grant him the pension he is entitled to under the rules.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—(8). The answer is '23'. There were 23 peons already in the service who had put in five months. I want to know why a new man was appointed.

Mr. C. V. Antony.—They were in the service and as such no injustice was done to them.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Was not this peon made permanent?

Mr. C. V. Antony.—No.

Auction sales in the Excise Department.

249. Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Will the Government kindly lay on the Table statistics showing the results of the auction sales conducted up-to-date by the present Superintendent of Excise since he became the Superintendent or in his immediate presence, quoting against each the results of similar auction sales conducted by the Superintendent or in his immediate presence in the years 1102 and 1103?

Mr. C. V. Antony.—Vide table appended (*Appendix I.*).

Excise Committee Report.

250. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether the Government have passed orders on the report of the Excise Committee;

(b) what is the delay in passing the orders;

(c) whether the report will be submitted for the consideration of the Legislative Council before orders are passed by the Government thereon; and if not, what is the reason for not doing it?

Mr. C. V. Antony.—(a) No.

(b) and (c). The report is under the consideration of the Government. So also is the question of placing it in the Council before orders are passed on it.

251. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) how long it has been since the Excise Committee submitted its report to the Government;

(b) what action has been taken by the Government on the report;

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(c) whether the report will be submitted to the Legislative Council for ascertaining the opinion of the Council; and if so, when?

Mr. C. V. Antony.—(a) One year and eight months.

(b) and (c) Government are considering the question.

Toddy and arrack consumption in the State.

252. Mr. A. B. Salem.—(a) Will the Government be pleased to inform the total revenue collected in the State in the year 1104 by sale of toddy and arrack up to the first of Mithunam 1104;

(b) will the Government be pleased to inform the quantity of toddy and arrack consumed in the State according to official records in 1104; what provision exists to regulate the quantity of arrack and toddy in the taverns and shops that are licensed; how does the Government ascertain the exact quantity sold out from these licensed taverns and shops;

(c) will the Government further be pleased to state the average consumption of arrack and toddy per head in the State;

(d) how many cases of the manufacture of arrack and toddy illicitly have been detected by the Departments in 1104;

(e) what is the number of prosecutions launched for such illicit manufacture of arrack, and how many of them ended in conviction, and how many were acquitted in the year 1104;

(f) what is the total amount of fine collected for such offences in the year 1104;

(g) what is the total number of arrack shops in the State and what is the total number of toddy shops in the State sanctioned in the year 1104;

(h) has the Government reduced the number of shops as desired by the Council in the year 1104; if so, what is the number so reduced; and what is the proportion of reduction to the total number of shops;

(i) what steps has the Government taken towards the policy of prohibition in the year 1104; and what further steps are to be introduced by them in the year 1105;

(j) what is the total quantity of opium imported into the State in the year 1104 up-to-date, and how much more is expected to be imported before the end of the year;

(k) what is the quantity of ganja imported up-to-date and what is the quantity expected to be imported during the next two months of the year;

(l) what is the amount of rebate obtained for the above imports of ganja and opium?

Mr. C. V. Antony.—(a) Rs. 10,05,131—5—8.

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